
By: **Delegates Griffith, Rawlings, Aumann, D. Davis, Frank, Gaines,
Hubbard, Madaleno, Patterson, Proctor, and F. Turner**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2003

Assigned to: Appropriations

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 21, 2003

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Higher Education - Educational Excellence Awards - Funding**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring ~~a minimum~~ up to a certain amount of funding
4 appropriated annually for ~~Educational Assistance Grants~~ certain student
5 financial assistance programs to be allocated to institutions of higher education
6 in the State to fund Educational Excellence Awards; and generally relating to
7 funding for Educational Excellence Awards.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article - Education
10 Section 18-307
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2001 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
14 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article - Education**

16 18-307.

17 (a) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, the Office shall compile
18 and certify lists for the entire State that rank applicants by financial need.

19 (b) All funds for annual initial grants shall be awarded from the statewide list
20 on the basis of greatest financial need.

1 (c) On or before May 1 of each year, the Office shall send each Senator and
2 each Delegate a list of individuals in each legislative district to whom Educational
3 Excellence Awards are awarded.

4 (d) (1) (I) ~~{If State funds are available for this purpose, institutions}~~
5 ~~INSTITUTIONS~~ of higher education in the State may provide Educational Excellence
6 Awards to students who otherwise meet the requirements for receiving an
7 Educational Excellence Award but who apply after the March 1 deadline or have
8 other extenuating circumstances.

9 (II) ~~AT LEAST \$3 MILLION OF THE TOTAL FUNDS APPROPRIATED~~
10 ~~FOR EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS SHALL BE ALLOCATED TO INSTITUTIONS~~
11 ~~OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE TO PROVIDE EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE~~
12 ~~AWARDS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBSECTION~~ EACH YEAR THE COMMISSION
13 SHALL TRANSFER UP TO \$2 MILLION OF THE FUNDS AVAILABLE UNDER § 18-107(B) OF
14 THIS SUBTITLE FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SUBSECTION.

15 (2) The Commission shall:

16 (i) Establish guidelines for the awarding of Educational Excellence
17 Awards by the institutions of higher education to the students; and

18 (ii) Adopt regulations necessary for the implementation of this
19 subsection.

20 (3) (i) The Commission shall allocate available funds to institutions of
21 higher education based on the proportion of State residents enrolled at each
22 institution who receive federal Pell Grants.

23 (ii) An institution of higher education that receives funds under
24 this paragraph shall provide the Commission with an annual audit describing the
25 disposition of the funds.

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
27 ~~October~~ July 1, 2003.